(b) what is the total estimate of the funds which the Reserve Bank proposed to mobilise through these schemes under NRI; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Indians living in foreign countries especially in Arab countries have proposed to invest their money in the Indian industries and what facilities have been provided by Government for bringing in those funds for the development of industrial sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Government have decided to introduce a new scheme of Foreign Currency denominated Bonds/Deposit Certificates for Non-Resident Indians on a non-repatriable basis. The maturity period of these Bands/Deposit Certificates will be 7 years and these will carry an interest rate higher than that applicable to the repartriable foreign currency non-resident deposits. These Bonds/Deposits will be free from Income tax, Wealth tax and Gift tax. There is no decision to allow NRIs' investment in the housing sector.

(b) It is pre-mature to assess the likely amount of funds to be mobilised through this Scheme.

(c) Government have liberalised the investment facilities for NRI investments in 1982-83 and since then the Schemes are under constant review. These include investment in Indian industries in the form of equity, debentures or deposits, deposits in banks, units of UTI, National Savings Certificates, etc. both on repatriation and non-repatriation basis.

Export of Engineering Goods

2102. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a considerable increase in the export of engineering goods during the last nine months ending December, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the facilities provided by Government to the engineering industry to export more engneering goods to foreign countries; and

(c) what are the names of the countries to which the engineering goods were exported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. As per figures available with the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) the export of engineering goods during April-December, 1987 were of the order of Rs. 830 cores as compared to Rs. 785 crores during the corresponding period of last year.

(b) The facilities provided to the exporters of engineering goods include liberalisation of licensing procedures and technology import, a new regime of Cash Compensatory Support (CCS) to compensate for the cascading effect of domestic taxation, access to raw materials and consumables at international competitive prices, reduction in the interest rates of pre and post shipment credit, interest rebate on new term loans to units which export more than 25 per cent of their production, assistance from export marketing fund for marketing activities abroad, introduction of new blanket exchange permit scheme to facilitate export promotion activities, grant of replenishment licences, duty drawback etc.

(c) The major countries to which engineering goods were exported include USSR, USA, UK, FRG, France, Australia; Japan, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, ARE; Algeria, Jordan, UAE, Cameroon, Nigeria, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Mauritius etc.

Delhi as Transit Point for Trafficking in Women and Children

2103. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi has been pointed out as the major transit point for trafficking in women and children; and

(b) if so, what steps the Central Government propose to take to check the problem of trafficking in women and children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of the above. However full vigilance is kept in this regard and action is taken under Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act against persons found to be involved in immoral trafficking.

Closure of textile mills due to strikes and lock-outs

@2104. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of textile mills in the country which have been closed due to strikes or lock-outs;

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to solve the problem of industrial sickness in the textile industry; and

(c) what special efforts are proposed to be made by Government to obtain secured conditions of work for the industrial labour in the textile industry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):(a) As on 31.12.87, 48 textile mills were lying closed because of strikes/lock-outs.

(b) and (c) Government had set up a Nodal Agency to examine sick textile mills in order to ascertain whether they are potentially viable or not. The Nodal Agency evolves and manages rehabilitation packages for textile mills found by it to be viable. In addition, a Board for Industrial and Finance Reconstruction has been set up to consider the cases of sick textile companies also. A Textile Modernisation Fund has also been created to meet the modernisation needs of textile mills. Non-viable mills may have to close down permanently. Workers of those mills which closed down permanently on or after 6th June, 1985 will be eligible for financial assistance under the Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme.

@Previously Unstarred Question 1778, transferred from the 11th March, 1988.

Supervision of law and order by political parties at loan melas

2105. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that any political party can supervise maintenance of law and order at loan melas conducted by the nationalised banks; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Credit Camps are organised by banks with a view to accelerate the flow of credit to weaker sections. The maintenance of law and order in the State is Primarily the concern of the concerned State Government.

केन्द्रीय जल आयोग में संपादकों की नियुक्ति

2106. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव** : क्या **जल संसाधन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पांच वर्ष पहले राजभाषा समिति की उप-समिति द्वारा केन्द्रीय जल आयोग के कार्यालय का दौरा करने के पश्चात् उसके संबंध में क्या निरीक्षण रिपोर्ट दी गई थी ; और

(ख) हिन्दी पत्रिका के लिये संपादकों की नियुक्ति के संबंध में तत्कालीन संयोजक द्वारा दी गयी सलाह को कार्यान्वित न किये जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

जल संसाधन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती कृष्णा साही) : (क) संसदीय राजभाषा समिति की उप-समिति द्वारा केन्द्रीय जल आयोग के 5.9.1983 को किये गए दौरे की निरीक्षण रिपोर्ट की